

Hapeville Historical Society

FEBRUARY 2006

Diane Dimmick – President

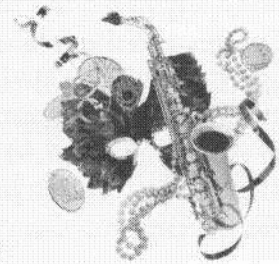
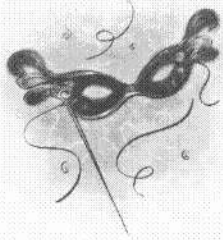
Charlotte Rentz – Vice-President

Noreen Conort–Recording Secretary Gerry Landrum-Barge–Corresponding Secretary

Barbara Suarez – Treasurer

Dick Miller, Diane Dimmick – Editors

Web-Site: hapevillehistoricalsociety.org



Meeting: MARDI GRAS SOCIAL!!

Thursday February 23rd

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Fellowship Hall, Hapeville United Methodist Church

Let the good times roll NEXT WEEK as we enjoy our first scheduled “social” event of 2006. The officers are hoping this event will act as a catalyst to ignite renewed interest in attending our monthly meetings. We are fortunate to have the group of musicians that play for the Happy Hums joining us so that we will be able to enjoy their fine music. Also planned is a sampling of traditional New Orleans Mardi Gras food: Red Beans and Rice or Jambalaya and King Cake as well as other refreshments. And Mardi Gras Beads too!! Society officers are hoping to do a little fund raising (a donation bowl will be on the refreshment table) and new member recruiting. So mark your calendars now and make plans to attend this exciting event. Current members, if you haven’t been in a while, come on back and bring your friends and neighbors! Laissez les bon temps rouler!!

About Mardi Gras - History and Tradition...

The celebration of Mardi Gras came to North America from France where it had been celebrated since the Middle Ages. But Mardi Gras’ roots predate the French. Many see a relationship to the ancient tribal rituals of fertility that welcomed the arrival of spring. Early Church fathers, realizing that it was impossible to divorce their new converts from their pagan customs, decided instead to direct them into Christian channels. Thus Carnival was created as a period of merriment that would serve as a prelude to the penitential season of Lent. Mardi Gras is French for fat Tuesday. It is always the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. Beginning in the late 1700s pre-Lenten balls and fetes were held in New Orleans. In the early 19th century, the public celebration of Mardi Gras consisted mainly of maskers on foot, in carriages, and on horseback. In 1837, a costumed group of revelers walked in the first documented “parade”. Socials clubs (called Krewes) began forming in 1857. Initially these were secret Carnival societies but now many of them do philanthropic work throughout the year. In 1872 the Krewe of Rex presented the first daytime parade in New Orleans and selected the Mardi Gras “colors”: Green for Faith, Gold for Power, and Purple for Justice.

From the President

I am very excited about this month's "meeting". As a native of Louisiana I have enjoyed the spirit of Mardi Gras for many years. And it is something that is fun to share. It is my hope that all of our members that attend regularly, and members who have not been in a while, and your friends and neighbors will make the effort to and let the good times roll. The results of the "non-scientific" survey conducted at the last meeting indicate that most of the members are satisfied with continuing our meetings on the third Thursday at 7:30. The meeting this month was changed so that we would not interfere with the Middle School's PTCA meeting that is also held on the third Thursday of the month. Clint Dimmick and Barbara Suarez will be in attendance next week to accept your 2006 dues payment. Don't be left out of the 2006 Membership Directory. Some progress has been made on the cleaning of the Depot Museum. The biggest tasks remaining are the updating of the wiring, restoring power and gas, installation of lighting fixtures and the re-hanging of the pictures in the lobby area. I am expecting the Museum to re-open cleaned, lighted, powered, and heated by March 15th! Willie Bailey has been talking about field trips again. Plans are hopefully underway for a March or April trip. And what a treat to see our own Ed Milton featured in an article in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution on Monday, January 30! If you have not seen this wonderful piece we will have a copy of it at the meeting. Hope to see you there!

Diane

**Diane Dimmick
President**

CHANGES IN BY-LAWS RECOMMENDED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote provided the amendment was presented at the immediately prior regular meeting or given to each member one week prior to the meeting a which it is to considered. This notice may be by telephone or a part of the newsletter. If we have enough members present on February 23 will vote on the changes below:

1. It is proposed to amend Section 4 of ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES of the Bylaws by striking out the word Thirty and inserting the word Fifteen.

Reason: It is difficult to obtain the larger quorum for meetings.

2. It is proposed to amend Section 2 of ARTICLE VII EXECUTIVE BOARD of the Bylaws by striking out approve chairmen of Standing Committees appointed by the President.

Reason: This responsibility is given to the officers and the Immediate Past President in ARTICLE V DUTIES and in Section 1 of ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES. This was inadvertently placed under the Executive Board when the Bylaws were revised.



Hapeville Historical Society Life Member Mike Simpson, Eric Tedder, Bill Baldowski

The above gentlemen, who are Civil War re-enactors, provided the program at the January meeting. Mike has been active in Civil War re-enactment for four years and Revolutionary War re-enactment for 19 years. Bill has been involved in Civil War re-enactment for four and one-half years and was first introduced by his nephew, Eric. Eric has been participating in Civil War re-enactment for 13 years since he was 11 years old. The men represent both the "Blue and the Gray". Civil War re-enactments are so popular that re-enactors can participate just about every weekend. These three men participate in the annual Battle of Jonesboro reenactment each fall. In addition Mike is a blacksmith and has led a survival trek for up to 200 members for seven days that involved "living off the land". Mike, Eric, and Bill were dressed in full regalia with haversack (carryall), cartridge box on right hip, Colt pistol, and saber. Also, the program included an extensive and excellent display of "show and tell" exact replica items used by both sides during the Civil War. After a discussion of the description on the use of the 1853 model Infantry musket and the 1863 Henry repeating rifle the men participated in a standard drill procedure. After their presentation ended members were able to look at all of the items displayed on the table and ask questions. This was a very informative program. Many thanks to Mike for getting his group together and to Noreen Conort for her excellent note taking.

A Special Thank You...

To Nancy Kinsey, a new Society Member, for a very generous donation of \$500.00 toward the purchase of five memorial stones to be placed outside of Christ Church. Nancy is a realtor with Cranford Homes & Realty and has made a personal pledge to "give something back" to the community of her childhood. The Society is grateful to be the benefactor of her generosity.

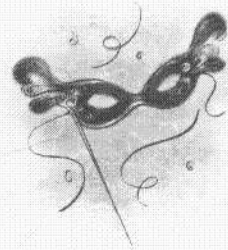
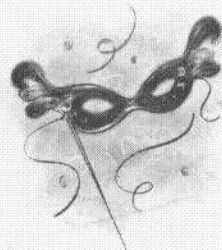
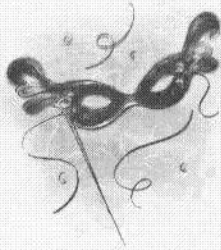
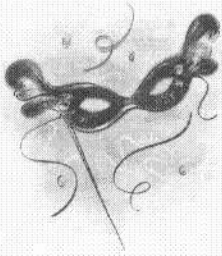


In Memoriam...

It is with deep sympathy to the family and friends of the following Society members who have passed away in the last few months. Their presence will be greatly missed.

Hoyt Smith, Eloise Chapman, Sarah Jones, Peggy Simpson, and Roy Cash





*MARDI GRAS IN HAPEVILLE!!!
JOIN THE FUN
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD
6:00 - 8:00
LAISSEZ LES BON TEMPS ROULER!!!!*

HAPEVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 82055
HAPEVILLE GA 30354
RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

